



Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee Public Hearing
March 7, 2011
In Support of
SB1004 AAC the Authorization of Special Tax Obligation Bonds of the State
for Certain Transportation Purposes
Connecticut Fund for the Environment

Connecticut Fund for the Environment is a non-profit environmental advocate with over 7,500 members statewide. For over thirty years, CFE has fought to protect and preserve Connecticut's health and environment.

The Connecticut Fund for the Environment ("CFE") supports the Governor's transportation priorities contained in Section 2 of SB1004. The capital priorities in this section include a \$156 million investment in bus and rail facilities and an additional \$200 million investment in fix it first, road surface repair and bridge maintenance and repair projects. These priorities are the key to an environmentally sustainable transportation system – expanding a robust transit system while maintaining our existing roads and bridge system.. A robust and inter-connected bus and rail system will allow our economy to grow while cutting congestion, air pollution and creating the framework for transit-oriented, sustainable development.

Investing in transit helps the economy. A recent economic analysis concludes that every dollar invested in transit can yield up to three times that value in economic benefit. This is directly linked to financial savings and economic activity of transit users, increased spending on goods and services as well as job creation from capital projects and transit operations.

As a member of the Transit for Connecticut coalition, we urge you to support these expenditures. Thank you for your consideration and for your work to improve Connecticut's transportation network.

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